

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95064

EVALUATION OF
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION and/or SENIOR THESIS
FOR ROBERT ANDREW SAWYER

A fine collection of poems, illustrating Robert Sawyer's many strong points and some of his weaknesses as well. In general he is at his best when most economical and at his weakest when most diffuse and tendentious. However, I have watched his talent develop through the writing and constant re-writing of this collection; many of the poems here have already been published (both in on and off-campus literary magazines) and have been refined by public readings and critical sessions. He takes poetry very seriously and for the relatively brief time he has been at it has achieved some distinctive successes.

The Accompanying paper on Aesthetics from what might be called a modified Jungian perspective is excellent. It reflects quite wide reading and a good deal of systematic thinking. It is well organized and carefully argued. Naturally, one may dispute some of the Jungian presuppositions which underly the argument but if you accept his categories, Robert Sawyer's discussion of their consequences will flow quite naturally. On occasion there are somewhat stilted passages and syntactical uncertainties but on the whole it is a fine piece.

Recommendation: Honors

Recommended for the Major program: Honors

George Hitchcock, 1st Reader

I am in full agreement with the First Reader (Mr. Hitchcock) and would add only that it has been a pleasure to see Mr. Sawyer's steady growth as a poet. He has strong motivation, is receptive, and will continue to grow. I suggest a bright future for his work and his career in letters.

The essay is well-argued and strikes the right balance between specialized reading and a contemplation of his own observed creative processes. The prose is taut and workmanlike; the development is strong, the conclusion appropriate.

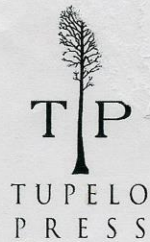
Honors, on both counts.

James B. Hall, 2nd Reader

Dated: June 8, 1978


for Board of Studies in

Aesthetic Studies Major



December 20, 2006

Dear Robert Sawyer,

After long, careful, and rather agonizing deliberations, we have settled on publishing five collections submitted during the July open reading period. These include: *The Beginning of the Fields* by Angela Shaw, *The Book of Whispering in the Projection Booth* by Joshua Marie Wilkinson, *Modern History—Prose Poems 1987-2007* by Christopher Buckley, and two books by Karen An-Hwei Lee: *Ardor* and *Erythropoiesis*.

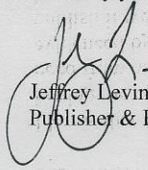
I know that this will be a disappointment to you, but I want you to know that I loved having the opportunity to linger over *American Lullaby*. There is nothing whatever you need from me by way of feedback, of course. You're writing at the top of your game, as evidenced by the fact that yours was one of 30 out of 1,000 manuscripts that we would publish if we had the resources. There are simply too few publishing opportunities—here, and elsewhere—for the growing number of great books.

Thank you sincerely for giving me a shot at this terrific book this time around, though I recognize that's little consolation. Your manuscript was on the table right to the bitter end.

Since this letter comes after the Dorset Prize deadline, and assuming that you have not already entered (I have not checked with mission control), should you choose to enter it in the Dorset Prize, you may do so until January 6th (postmark date).

In any event, please try not to be discouraged. Your writing is terrific, and your manuscript is bound to be highly competitive here whenever submitted. Meanwhile, I'd love to enter into a dialogue with you about your work as a creative strategist. It seems to me that Tupelo Press needs someone like you.

Sincerely yours,


Jeffrey Levine
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief

An Independent Literary Press
PO Box 539, Dorset, VT 05251 www.tupelopress.org



Yale
University
Press

9 March 2009

Robert Sawyer
2 Charlton Street, #12A
New York, NY 10014

Dear Robert Sawyer,

On behalf of Jennifer Banks, Editor at the Yale University Press, I invite you to submit your poetry to our 2010 Yale Series of Younger Poets competition. Based on the success of your work in the Discovery Poetry Contest we think you would make an excellent candidate for our competition.

The Yale Series of Younger Poets is an annual poetry contest open to any American under the age of 40 who has not previously published a volume of poetry exceeding 300 copies. Manuscripts must be postmarked between October 1st and November 15th or they will not be considered. The winner is announced in the summer. Information about the contest is available on our website with a complete set of guidelines that should be carefully consulted before sending in any submissions. (<http://yalepress.yale.edu/yupbooks/youngerpoets.asp>)

Recent winners of the Yale Series of Younger Poets can be found on our website. The 2008 contest winner, Arda Collin's collection, *It is Daylight*, will be published this April and the 2009 winner will be announced shortly.

We hope you will submit your work to be evaluated for the 2010 competition. Please contact us with any questions you might still have after consulting our website. We look forward to reading your work and wish you the best of luck.

Sincerely,

Christina Tucker
Editorial Assistant
Yale University Press
christina.tucker@yale.edu

302 Temple Street Mail: P.O. Box 209040
New Haven, CT 06520-9040
203 432-0960 Fax: 203 432-0948
Website: yalebooks.com
Marketing: 203 432-0961 Fax: 203 432-8485
Editorial: 432-0900 Fax: 436-1064
Production: 432-7484 Fax: 432-4061